

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

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EXERCISES ON MILITARY LAND

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FORT WAINWRIGHT, Alaska – The Tanana Flats and large portions of the Yukon and Donnelly Training Areas will be available to moose hunters this year.

Soldiers from the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 501<sup>st</sup> Infantry will conduct combined training exercises with paratroopers from the Indian Armed Forces in portions of the Donnelly Training Area at Fort Greely and the Yukon Training Area behind Eielson Air Force Base Sept. 5-27 as part of the Pacific Command's Theater Support Cooperation Program.

The unit is part of Fort Richardson's new 4-25 Airborne Brigade Combat Team based at Fort Richardson. Officials expect the 4-25 ABCT to deploy shortly after it is certified as ready for combat in mid to late 2006. The 501<sup>st</sup> recently returned to Alaska after having completed ten months of combat duty in Afghanistan in 2003-4. They are expected to join the remainder of the 4-25 BCT when it deploys in 2006.

Alaskan Command will also conduct an Arctic Search and Rescue exercise in Training Area 1 of the Yukon Training Area Sept. 13-15. That area will be open to hunting with the exception of those three days.

Training areas not used for the exercise will be open for recreational activities. Areas used for the training will be off-limits during the course of the exercise.

Johnson and Brigadier roads will be open so that hunters may access camps on the far side of the Yukon Training Area. The northeast portion of 33-Mile Loop will also be open. All of the Tanana Flats Training Area is open to recreational activity. Permanent impact areas are closed to all activities. These areas contain

hazardous unexploded ordinance residue and are depicted in red on the maps provided.

Maps of the areas open for hunting and those portions closed for training will be posted at [www.wainwright.army.mil](http://www.wainwright.army.mil); <http://www.usarak.army.mil/pao/images/05-maps.swf> and on the website for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at [www.wildlife.alaska.gov/gis/index.cfm](http://www.wildlife.alaska.gov/gis/index.cfm). Maps will also be available at Prospector Outfitters on Cushman Street and Beaver Sports on College Road in Fairbanks and at City Hall in Delta Junction.

Information on which areas are open will be recorded on the US Army Alaska Recreation Tracking System, 353-3181 at Fort Wainwright; 384-3181 at Fort Richardson and 873-3181 at Fort Greely. Questions or comments can also be directed to Major Kirk Gohlke, U.S. Army Alaska Public Affairs Officer, at 384-1542.